

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 JOHANN 01026 222228Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 EB-08 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 OPIC-03
AID-05 XMB-02 CEA-01 STR-07 (ISO) W
-----035741 232256Z /64

R 211045Z APR 78
FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7587
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L JOHANNESBURG 1026

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EINV, SF, US
SUBJECT: MOTLANA FAVORS US DISINVESTMENT

1. OF GENERAL INTEREST IS VIEW ON US INVESTMENT IN RSA
EXPRESSED TO CONGEN BY DR. NTHATO MOTLANA, CHAIRMAN OF
SOWETO COMMITTEE OF TEN, DURING EVENING APRIL 18. MOTLANA
HAD JUST GIVEN TAPED INTERVIEW TO WASHINGTON STAR REPORTER
IN WHICH HE HAD SAID THAT HE FAVORED CONTINUED US (AND
FOREIGN) INVESTMENT, PRESUMABLY FOR USUAL REASONS THAT
SUCH INVESTMENT MEANT LEVERAGE FOR PROMOTING IMPROVED
CONDITIONS FOR BLACKS AND THAT DISINVESTMENT WOULD WORK
GREATER HARDSHIP FOR BLACKS THAN WHITES.

2. MOTLANA SAID THAT WHAT HE WOULD SAY FOR PUBLICATION
DIFFERED DIAMETRICALLY FROM WHAT HE WOULD SAY PRIVATELY,
NAMELY THAT HE BELIEVED US INTERESTS SHOULD DISINVEST
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 JOHANN 01026 222228Z

IN RSA. HE AND COLLEAGUES HAD CHECKED LEGAL IMPLICATION
OF TAKING THIS STAND PUBLICLY WITH PROMINENT DEFENSE
ATTORNEY SHUN CHETTY, WHO HAD TOLD THEM THEY WOULD BE
LIABLE TO PROSECUTION BY SAG AND IMPRISONMENT FOR TEN
YEARS AT ROBBEN ISLAND. MOTLANA SAID HE WAS NOT AFRAID
TO GO TO ROBBEN ISLAND FOR SOME CONCEIVABLE SERIOUS
POLITICAL ACTIVITY, BUT HE WAS NOT PREPARED TO GO TO JAIL

FOR SPEAKING OUT ON THIS ISSUE. THEREFORE, HE HAD DECIDED TO DISSEMBLE. HIS FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES WERE DOING THE SAME, AND HE BELIEVED MOST POLITICAL ACTIVISTS FELT AS HE DID THAT IT WOULD HELP THEIR CAUSE IF THE US ANNOUNCED AN INVESTMENT EMBARGO.

3. COMMENT: MOTLANA CONTINUES TO BE THE LEADER (THOUGH SELF-APPOINTED) MOST RESPECTED BY BLACKS IN SOWETO. MY EXPERIENCE WITH HIM, EXTENDING OVER TWO YEARS AND MADE MORE PERSONAL DURING HIS TIME IN DETENTION WHEN WE PAID CALLS ON HIM IN JAIL, PERSUADES ME HE IS A STRAIGHT-SHOOTER WITH US.

4. FOOTNOTE: MOTLANA CONTINUES TO HOPE THAT CONGRESSMAN WILSON (D TEXAS) CAN HELP FIND HIS SON KARABO A UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP IN TEXAS.
JOHNSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS CONFERENCES, FOREIGN INVESTMENTS, THREATS, ARRESTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978JOHANN01026
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780173-1005
Format: TEL
From: JOHANNESBURG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780432/aaaabaoh.tel
Line Count: 78
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d81fefa9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2895198
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MOTLANA FAVORS US DISINVESTMENT
TAGS: EINV, SOPN, SHUM, SF, US, (MOTLANA, NTHATO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d81fefa9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014